JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE

Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying: Judge, Circuit Court, At-Large, Seat 8

1. NAME: Mr. Daniel Dewitt Hall

BUSINESS ADDRESS: Moss Justice Center

1675-A York Highway

York, South Carolina 29745

E-MAIL ADDRESS: dan.hall@yorkcountygov.com

TELEPHONE NUMBER: (office): 803-628-3173

2. Date of Birth: 1954

Place of Birth: York, South Carolina

3. Are you a citizen of South Carolina? Yes
Have you been a resident of this state for at least the immediate past five

years? Yes
5. Family Status: Married on February 26, 1977, to Cathleen McCreight Hall.
Never divorced. Four children.

- 6. Have you served in the military? No.
- 7. List each college and law school you attended, including the dates of your attendance, the degrees you received, and if you left an institution without receiving a degree, the reason for your departure.
 - (a) Clemson University 1972-76 BS Animal Science
 - (b) Campbell University School of Law 1985-88 Juris Doctor
- 8. List the states in which you have been admitted to practice law and the year of each admission. Also list any states in which you took the bar exam but were never admitted to the practice of law. If you took the bar exam more than once in any of the states listed, please indicate the number of times you took the exam in each state.
 - (a) South Carolina 1988
 - (b) North Carolina 1988
- 9. List the significant activities in which you took part during your attendance at college, graduate, and law school. Give the dates you were involved in these activities and list any leadership positions you held.
 - (a) Clemson University Animal Science Club, 1972-76 President, Treasurer
 - (b) Campbell University School of Law
 - (c) Christian Legal Society, 1985-88 President, Vice-President
 - (d) National Trial Team-Spring 1988
 - (e) Member Law School Dean Search Committee Spring 1988
- 10. Describe your continuing legal or judicial education during the past five years. Include only the title and date of any continuing legal or judicial education course completed.



Conference/CLE Name		Date(s)
(a)	"2008 Annual Solicitor's Association Conference"	9/28/08-9/30/08;
(b)	"Evidence for Prosecutors – Tucson, Arizona"	11/4/07-11/8/07;
(c)	"2007 Annual Solicitor's Association Conference"	9/23/07-9/26/07;
(d)	"2006 Annual Solicitor's Association Conference"	9/24/06-9/27/06;
(e)	"2005 Annual Solicitor's Association Conference"	9/25/05-9/28/05;
(f)	"2004 Annual Solicitor's Association Conference"	9/26/04-9/29/04;
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(g) "Focus on Sexual Assault Victims -

National Advocacy Center"

8/2/04-8/6/04.

- 11. Have you taught law-related courses or lectured at bar association conferences, educational institutions, or continuing legal or judicial education programs? None
- 12. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each.
 - Clergy Confidentiality: A Time to Speak and a Time to Be Silent, by Lynn Buzzard and Dan Hall, 1988 Christian Management Association.
- 13. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice and list the dates of your admission. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require a special admission to practice.
 - (a) South Carolina State Courts: November 16, 1988
 - (b) North Carolina State Courts: August 19, 1988

following questions are inapplicable:

- 14. Describe chronologically your legal experience since graduation from law school and include a list of all law firms with which you have been associated. Describe the general character of your practice and divide it into periods with dates if its character has changed over the years.
 - (a) Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Solicitor's Office Assistant Solicitor, 1988-90
 - (b) Sole Practitioner 1991-99
 General practice with focus on personal injury, worker's compensation and criminal defense
 - (c) Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Solicitor's Office Assistant Solicitor, 1999present
 If you are a judge and are not seeking a different type of judgeship, the
 - (b) If you are a candidate for Circuit Court, please provide a brief written description of your experience in criminal matters, including any cases handled over the past five years and include a brief description of the issues involved. Further, please provide a brief written description of your experience in civil matters, including any cases handled over the past five years and include a brief description of the types of matters handled, issues involved, and procedural history. Please include information such as the primary areas in civil court in which you practice, whether you represent plaintiffs or defendants, or both. You may go back further than five years if you feel it would assist the Commission with its assessment of your experience. If you lack

experience in an area, describe how your background has prepared you to preside over such matters as a Circuit Court Judge, or how you would compensate for your lack of experience in this area.

I have been an Assistant Solicitor for the past ten years. I currently prosecute class A, B, or C felonies. I am employed as an assistant solicitor. I have no experience in civil matters in the past five years. I was in private practice from 1991 – 1999 and had a limited experience in the court of common pleas. My practice included criminal defense, personal injury, probate and some limited litigation in common pleas. I believe that I have the intellectual ability to quickly develop the necessary skills to preside in common pleas.

- 15. What is your rating in Martindale-Hubbell? None.
 - Retired judges/justices and judges/justices applying for reelection to their current position may omit Questions 16-21. If a candidate is seeking a judgeship different than his or her current position, Questions 16-21 should be answered based on experience prior to serving on the bench.
- 16. What was the frequency of your court appearances during the last five years?
 - (a) federal: 0%;
 - (b) state: 100%.
- 17. What percentage of your practice involved civil, criminal, and domestic matters during the last five years?
 - (a) civil: 0%;
 - (b) criminal: 100%;
 - (c) domestic: 0%.
- 18. What percentage of your practice in trial court during the last five years involved matters that went to a jury, including those that settled prior to trial?
 - (a) jury: 10%;
 - (b) non-jury: 90%.

Did you most often serve as sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel in these matters? Sole counsel

- 19. List five of the most significant litigated matters that you have personally handled in either trial or appellate court or before a state or federal agency. Give citations if the cases were reported and describe why these matters were significant.
 - (a) State v. Russell Holley 2002 GS 46 0698

 Murder trial in which boyfriend stabbed girlfriend to death in a rage of domestic violence. Defendant was sentence to life without parole
 - (b) State v. Aaron Williams 2003 GS 46 2745

 Burglary First Degree trial in which a seventy year old widow's home was invaded while she was alone. Victim was physically attacked. Defendant was sentence to a thirty year prison sentence.
 - (c) State v. Sakima McCullough 2006 GS 46 0110

Burglary First Degree, Armed Robbery and Kidnapping trial in which the defendant was involved in a home invasion, robbery and assault on the victim. Defendant was sentence to a thirty year prison sentence.

- (d) State v. Edward Miller 2003 GS 46 0557

 Defendant was charged with murder. The case was trued billed by the grand jury. In preparing for trial and investigating this case evidence was discovered absolving this defendant of the murder. The defendant had been wrongfully charged. I dismissed this case.
- (e) State v. Penny Sue Price 1994 GS 46 2784
 I defended at trial an indigent, mentally handicapped defendant charged with threatening public housing officials. The defendant was found not guilty at trial.
- 20. List up to five civil appeals you have personally handled. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision, and the citation if the case was reported. If you are a candidate for an appellate court judgeship (please attach one copy of briefs filed by you in each matter). None
- 21. List up to five criminal appeals that you have personally handled. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision and the citation if the case was reported. If you are a candidate for an appellate court judgeship (please attach one copy of briefs filed by you in each matter). None
- 22. Have you ever held judicial office?

 Yes. Municipal Judge City of York, South Carolina appointed by York City Council. January, 1993 May, 1999. Signed criminal warrants, set bonds and held preliminary hearings for General Sessions criminal matters occurring in the city limits. Presided over plea court, bench trials and jury trials for criminal or traffic charges in the City of York in which the statutory penalty was no greater than 30 days in jail or the fine was not more than \$200.
- 23. If the answer to question 22 is yes, describe or list five of your most significant orders or opinions and give the citations if they were reported. Also list citations to any appellate review of these orders or opinions. None
- 24. Have you ever held public office other than judicial office? Never held public office.
- 25. List all employment you had while serving as a judge (whether full-time or parttime, contractual or at will, consulting or otherwise) other than elected judicial office. Specify your dates of employment, employer, major job responsibilities, and supervisor.

Self employed attorney – sole practitioner 1991-99. My position as York Municipal Judge required 8-10 hours per week of municipal court duties in addition to my private practice.

- 26. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office?
 - (a) Republican Primary candidate for Solicitor, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit, June, 1996.

- (b) Candidate for Judge, Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Family Court, 1998, withdrew.
- (c) Candidate for Judge, Circuit Court At-Large, Seat 9, March, 2006 Qualified but not nominated.
- (d) Candidate for Judge, Circuit Court At-Large, Seat 6, January, 2009 Qualified and nominated, withdrew prior to February election.
- 27. Have you ever been engaged in any occupation, business, or profession other than the practice of law, teaching of law, or holding judicial or other public office?
 - (a) Goodson Farms, Inc.-Turkey, N.C., 1976-78, Cattle Manager
 - (b) Farmer's Meat Center-York, S.C., 1978-83, Meat business, supervisor.
 - (c) York County Credit Bureau, Inc.—York, S.C., 1983-85, Owner and Manager.
- 28. Are you now an officer or director or involved in the management of any business enterprise? No.
- 29. A complete, current financial net worth statement was provided to the Commission.
- 30. Describe any financial arrangements or business relationships you have, or have had in the past, that could constitute or result in a possible conflict of interest in the position you seek. Explain how you would resolve any potential conflict of interest. None.
- 31. Have you ever been arrested, charged, or held by federal, state, or other law enforcement authorities for violation or for suspicion of violation of any federal law or regulation, state law or regulation, or county or municipal law, regulation, or ordinance, or any other law, including another country's law?

Yes, Hunting Deer over Bait. October 13, 2006. Found guilty at bench trial paid court costs.

- 32. Have you, to your knowledge, ever been under federal, state, or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute? No.
- 33. Has a tax lien or other collection procedure ever been instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities? Have you ever defaulted on a student loan? Have you ever filed for bankruptcy? No.
- 34. Have you ever been sued, either personally or professionally, that is, have you ever been named as defendant or respondent in any court of law?

Yes, during my employment as York Municipal Judge, I was a named defendant in a federal lawsuit filed by a disgruntled criminal defendant. He named every elected official and judges in York County in the lawsuit.

- 36. Are you now or have you ever been employed as a "lobbyist," as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(13), or have you acted in the capacity of a "lobbyist's principal," as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(14)? No.
- 37. Since filing with the Commission your letter of intent to run for judicial office, have you accepted lodging, transportation, entertainment, food, meals,

- beverages, money, or any other thing of value as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(1) from a lobbyist or lobbyist's principal? No.
- 38. S.C. Code § 8-13-700 provides, in part, that "[n]o public official, public member, or public employee may knowingly use his official office, membership, or employment to obtain an economic interest for himself, a member of his immediate family, an individual with whom he is associated, or a business with which he is associated." Please detail any knowledge you have of any formal charges or informal allegations against you or any other candidate for violations of these provisions. None.
- 39. S.C. Code § 8-13-765 provides, in part, that "[n]o person may use government personnel, equipment, materials, or an office building in an election campaign." Please detail any knowledge you have of any formal charges or informal allegations against you or any other candidate for violations of these provisions. None.
- 40. Itemize (by amount, type, and date) all expenditures, other than those for travel and room and board, made by you, or on your behalf in furtherance of your candidacy for the position you seek. None.
- 41. List the amount and recipient of all contributions made by you or on your behalf to members of the General Assembly since the announcement of your intent to seek election to a judgeship. None.
- 42. Have you directly or indirectly requested the pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened? Have you received the assurance of any public official or public employee that they will seek the pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened? No.
- 43. Have you requested a friend or colleague to contact members of the General Assembly on your behalf? Are you aware of any friends or colleagues contacting members of the General Assembly on your behalf? No.
- 44. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy? No.
- 45. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf contacted members of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission about your candidacy or intention to become a candidate? No.
- 46. List all bar associations and professional organizations of which you are a member and give the titles and dates of any offices you have held in such groups.
 - (a) York County Bar Association: Treasurer, 1992
 - (b) South Carolina Bar Association
 - (c) North Carolina Bar
- 47. List all civic, charitable, educational, social, and fraternal organizations of which you are or have been a member during the past five years and include any offices held in such a group, any professional honors, awards, or other forms of recognition received and not listed elsewhere.

- (a) Filbert Presbyterian Church: Clerk of Session
- (b) York County Beekeepers Association
- (c) Palmetto Pregnancy Center, Board Member
- (d) National Cutting Horse Association
- 48. Provide any other information that may reflect positively or negatively on your candidacy, or which you believe should be disclosed in connection with consideration of you for nomination for the position you seek.

Having grown up in a rural environment learning farm work and land surveying from my father, I continued to do farm work, textile mill work and land surveying through high school and college. Prior to attending law school, I managed a cattle operation, worked in a meat processing business and operated a local credit reporting and collection business. In these years, I married my wife of now thirty-one years and we had three small children.

Having read and seen the need for attorneys with integrity to fill the ranks of our justice system, I then made the decision to attend law school. I began law school as a thirty year old father to three small children and my wife and I had our fourth child during the law school years. I took and passed the South Carolina and North Carolina bar exams in July 1988.

Since my time as a lawyer, my family has now grown to four married children, their spouses and five grandchildren. I have deeply enjoyed my work as a public servant as a private attorney, municipal judge and an assistant solicitor in the Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Solicitor's office.

My life experiences give me a deep understanding and appreciation for people from all walks of life. I have been privileged to work with men and women from a broad variety of social and economic backgrounds. The courtrooms of this state belong to such people, and circuit court judges serve those as well the professionals that conduct the business of the courts. I believe I am prepared and have the ability to serve as a circuit court judge with both common sense and experienced knowledge of the law.

My commitment to justice and serving the common man has well suited me to be a circuit court judge. I would be honored to serve.

49. References:

- (a) Harry A. Dest
 Chief Public Defender
 Moss Justice Center
 York, South Carolina 29745
 803-628-3031
- (b) Thomas E. Pope Attorney at Law P.O. Box 11091 Rock Hill, South Carolina 29731 803-324-7574
- (c) Dr. Russell W. Booker
 Associate Superintendent/Superintendent Elect

Spartanburg School District Seven 610 Dupre Drive Spartanburg, South Carolina 29307 864-594-4400

- (d) Rev. H. Wallace Tinsley 1399 Filbert Hwy York, South Carolina 29745 803-684-3600
- (e) Wachovia
 Clover Financial Center
 Attn: Parks Parrish
 203 Bethel Street
 Clover, South Carolina 29710
 803-222-4571

YOUR SIGNATURE WILL BE HELD TO CONSTITUTE A WAIVER OF THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF ANY PROCEEDING BEFORE A GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE OR ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING YOUR CREDIT.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT MY ANSWERS ARE TRUE AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

Signature: Daniel Dewitt Hall

Date: July 27, 2009